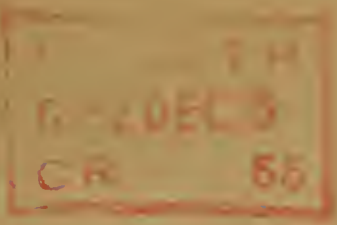


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Urban District of Whittlesey

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1954.

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To:               THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
                  WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my Annual Report for the year 1954 together with the Report of the Sanitary Inspector. While the work of the Sanitary Inspector under review was ably carried out by Mr Scott, the statistics in connection with it were prepared by the present Sanitary Inspector, Mr Bamford, to whom I wish to record my appreciation.

I have the pleasure to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. C. LOGAN.

Medical Officer of Health.



OFFICERS OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health:

D.C.Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

W.Scott, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Meat Inspector:

J.H.Poles, M.R.C.V.S.

OFFICES OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
6, Delph Street,  
Whittlesey.

Telephone No.      Whittlesey 2312-3

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area ( in acres )	23, 362
Number of Inhabitated Houses.	2, 818
Rateable Value (at 31.12.54.)	£33, 121
Product of 1d. rate (at 31.3.54.)	£125. 11s. 5d.
Population (Registrar General's figures).	8, 680



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# VITAL STATISTICS.

## LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	70	65	135
Illegitimate	6	3	9
	—	—	—
Total :	76	68	144
	—	—	—

## Live Birth Rate —

Whittlesey Urban District — per 1,000 estimated population 16.59  
 England and Wales. — per 1,000 estimated population 15.2

## STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	1	—	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total :	1	—	1
	—	—	—

## Stillbirth Rate —

Whittlesey Urban District — per 1,000 total (live and still) births 6.89  
 England and Wales — per 1,000 total (live and still) births 23.4

It is gratifying to record a very low stillbirth rate particularly as last year's rate was slightly above the figure for England and Wales.

## DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total :	1	1	2
	—	—	—

## Infant Mortality Rate —

Whittlesey Urban District — per 1,000 Live Births 13.89  
 England and Wales — per 1,000 Live Births 25.5

For the sixth consecutive year the Infant Mortality Rate for Whittlesey (13.89) is much below the figure for England and Wales (25.5). As the Chairman of the Council remarked last year when the low Infant Mortality Rate was under discussion "We must have very good mothers in Whittlesey". I think that this statement aptly epitomises the principle reason for the highly satisfactory state of Infant Health.

## Neo Natal Death Rate —

Whittlesey Urban District — per 1,000 Live Births Nil.  
 England and Wales — per 1,000 Live Births 17.7.





# DEATHS ( ALL CAUSES )

Male. 45

Female. 40

Total. 85

## Death Rate -

Whittlesey Urban District - per 1,000 estimated population 9.8  
 England and Wales - per 1,000 estimated population 11.3

## Causes of Deaths in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied by the Registrar General for 1954 :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	1
Tuberculosis, other.	1	1
Syphilitic disease.	1	1
Diphtheria.	1	1
Whooping Cough.	1	1
Meningococcal infections.	1	1
Acute poliomyelitis.	1	1
Measles.	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	6	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	4	5
Leukaemia, aloukaemia.	1	1
Diabetes.	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	3	6
Coronary disease, angina.	4	1
Hypertension with heart disease.	1	1
Other heart disease.	13	13
Other circulatory disease.	1	1
Influenza.	1	1
Pneumonia.	2	1
Bronchitis.	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate.	2	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	1	1
Congenital malformations.	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	2	2
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	1
All other accidents.	1	1
Suicide.	2	1
Homicide and operations of war.	1	1
	1	1
	1	1
Total :	45	40
	1	1



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A considerable amount of research work is going on at present in connection with immunisation against certain diseases and it is quite probable that further changes will take place in the procedure advocated by the medical practitioners in the town.

At the present time it is recommended that vaccination against smallpox should be carried out at 2 months, and that immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus (lock jaw) should be commenced at 4 months, three injections being given, at least four weeks apart. Boosting doses are given at 2 years and 5 years.

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during 1954 :-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pneumonia.	5	5	10
Scarlet Fever.	11	9	20
Measles.	2	1	3
Whooping Cough.	12	13	25
Tuberculosis (Pul.).	5	3	8
Tuberculosis (Non-pul.).	1	2	2
Infective Jaundice.	1	2	3
Erysipelas.	3	7	3
Acute Encephalitis.	1	1	1
			<hr/>
	Total :		75
			<hr/>



## MILK AND DAIRIES.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, we have on our Register :-

2 Distributors.

2 Dairies.

1 Distributor holding a "Dealers" Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk.

1 Distributor holding "Supplementary" Licences to sell "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" Milk.

1 Distributor holding a "Supplementary" Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Twenty two samples were submitted to the analyst at Peterborough Memorial Hospital, all being considered satisfactory.

Nine samples were submitted for biological examination. *Brucella abortus* was isolated from five samples.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

In no case was it found necessary to make any seizure of diseases or unsound food. The main work in this department was the issue of certificates of unsound food-stuffs, mostly blown and rusted cans, voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers.

## SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The duty for the inspection of meat in the shops and slaughterhouses was placed in the hands of Mr J.H.Poles, Meat Inspector.

Prior to decontrol on the 30th June the slaughtering and meat inspection for the town was carried out at Peterborough.

From the 1st July slaughtering was carried out at six slaughterhouses in the area.





## WATER SUPPLY.

Approximately 2,691 houses in the area have a piped water supply available. The water is obtained from Peterborough.

During the year 13 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The result of one taken at random is reproduced below:-

### "PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE".

#### WATER BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT.

Authority or Sender: Whittlesey U.D.C. Mr Scott.  
Lab: Ref: No: 21438  
Nature of Sample. Water taken from tap,  
Thoroughfare Lane, Whittlesey.  
Date and Hour of Collection. 3p.m. 20.10.54.  
Date and Hour of Arrival. 20.10.54.  
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37° C -  
Nil per 100 ml.  
22.10.54. This water is satisfactory.

(Signed) Dr. Gilmore.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The work of refuse collection was carried out satisfactorily during the year, bearing in mind the fact that our solitary vehicle and crew have to deal with 2500 houses.

The town of Whittlesey has a weekly collection, the villages of Coates and Eastrea a collection every ten days, and Blackbush, Pondersbridge, Eldernell and Turves are visited once monthly.

The disposal of refuse takes place at New Road, Whittlesey, the method being controlled tipping. The work was carried out satisfactorily during the year.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Two common lodging houses were registered at the beginning of the year.

Regular inspections to these premises are carried out.





FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Inspections made (under the Factories Act)  
for 1954.

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections, 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	21	5	—	—
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced.	43	7	—	—
Other Premises.	4	2	—	—
TOTAL :	68	14	—	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found.				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness.	—	—	—	—	—
Closet Unsuitable or Defective.	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL :	—	—	—	—	—



## HOUSING.

Number of Houses erected during 1954 :-

1.	By Local Authority.	-	163
2.	By Private Enterprise.	-	21
			-----
	Total :		184
			-----

## GENERAL.

Council houses and private dwellings are now being completed at a faster rate than ever.

Since the cessation of hostilities 369 houses have been constructed - 305 Council houses and 64 private houses.

It is gratifying to note the change which takes place in families housed from sub-standard dwellings or overcrowded rooms when they take over the occupancy of a new house.

The next task which will have to be faced is the re-housing of families living in railway carriages, caravans, and houses subject to Demolition and Clearance Orders, made before the outbreak of war.

## COMPLAINTS.

60 complaints were dealt with during the year; and are classified as follows:-

Cesspool, pail and vault work.	12
House repairs.	14
Refuse collection.	5
Rodents/insects.	6
Nuisances.	7
Miscellaneous.	8
Drainage.	3
Unsound food.	2
Filthy premises.	3



STATUTORY NOTICES ISSUED.

Public Health Act, 1936 (Sec. 75 Dustbin provision) 3

PRIVY CONVERSION.

The drive to rid the town of its remaining insanitary vault lavatories continued throughout the year.

10 vaults were converted to water closets.

CESSPOOL, PRIVY VAULT AND PAIL CLOSET WORK.

This work is done by a private contractor. No complaints were received.

SEWERAGE.

The work of providing sewers in the villages of Coates and Eastrea continues.







